

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 OMB-01 EB-07 COME-00 INT-05

DLOS-03 COA-01 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /086 W

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R 260815Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9124

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY SAIGON

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 1021

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG PLOS MY TH VS

SUBJ: MALAYSIAN-THAI SHELF BOUNDARY IN THE GULF OF SIAM

REF: A) BANGKOK 2846 (NOTAL)

B) STATE 28557 (NOTAL)

1. SENIOR MFA OFFICIAL DEALING WITH LOS AFFAIRS TOLD EMBOFF
FEB 25 THAT MALAYSIA AND THAILAND HAVE BEEN CONFERRING ON DELINIA-
TION OF CONTINENTAL SHELF IN SOUTH CHINA SEA OFF OF MALAYSIAN
STATE OF KELANTAN AND THAI PROVINCE OF NARATHIWAT. HE DID NOT
SEEM AWARE THAT TWO POINTS ALREADY AGREED ON AN ONLY THIRD RE-
MAINED TO BE SETTLED AS STATED BY EMB BANGKOK'S SOURCE (REF A),
BUT DID SAY THAT NEGOTIATIONS WERE HUNG UP BECAUSE OF A CONFLICT
BETWEEN THAILAND AND SOUTH VIETNAM OVER OUTERMOST PORTION OF
SHELF WHERE MALAYSIAN, THAI AND VIETNAMESE JURISDICTIONS TOUCH.
HE SAID THAT BOTH RTG AND GVN HAD PUBLISHED "EXTRAVAGANT"
CLAIMS TO THE CENTER OF THE GULF OF SIAM AND THAT MALAYSIA WOULD
SOON PUBLISH ITS OWN CLAIMS TO PROTECT ITSELF AND TO FORCE THE
THAIS TO GET DOWN TO SERIOUS NEGOTIATIONS.

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2. COMMENT: AGREED POINTS PRESUMABLY INCLUDE BORDER BETWEEN

THAILAND AND MALAYSIA OUT POSSIBLY TO TWELVE MILES WITH
THE THIRD "POINT" THE CONJOINING OF POTENTIAL MALAYSIAN-THAI-
VIETNAMESE AREAS OF THE SHELF. NEWSPAPERS IN KL RECENTLY
ANNOUNCED THAT DELINEATION OF SOME REMOTE PORTIONS OF THE
LAND BORDER CURRENTLY IS IN PROGRESS PURSUANT TO A FEB 1973
AGREEMENT, BUT THERE HAS BEEN NO MENTION OF TALKS REGARDING THE
SHELF. (AGREEMENT ON THE SHELF IN THE NORTHERN PART OF THE MALACCA
STRAIT WAS REACHED BETWEEN INDONESIA, MALAYSIA AND THAILAND IN
DECEMBER 1971 AND RATIFIED JULY 16, 1973.)
UNDERHILL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGREEMENTS, CONTINENTAL SHELF, BOUNDARY DETERMINATION, NEGOTIATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975KUALA01021
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750067-0826
From: KUALA LUMPUR
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750211/aaaaajxq.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 BANGKOK 2846
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags: ANOMALY
Review Date: 25 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <25 JUN 2003 by MartinML>; APPROVED <26 JUN 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MALAYSIAN-THAI SHELF BOUNDARY IN THE GULF OF SIAM
TAGS: ENRG, PLOS, MY, TH, VS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006